

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 007197
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER/NEA:MSTERNER
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NEA/ALATHERTONJR
S/S:PTARNOFF

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O 111550Z JAN 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 007197

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG, US

SUBJECT: BRIEFING HOST GOVERNMENTS ON PREPARATIONS FOR
JERUSALEM TALKS

REF: STATE 5218

1. POSTS (EXCEPT BEIRUT) WILL HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION
COPIES OF INSTRUCTIONS SENT REFTEL TO TEL AVIV AND CAIRO
CONVEYING TO TWO SIDES OUR SUGGESTIONS FOR AN AGENDA FOR
JERUSALEM TALKS AND OUR CONCEPT AS TO HOW WORK OF COMMITTEE
MIGHT PROCEED. WHILE WE WISH TO KEEP YOUR RESPECTIVE

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HOST GOVERNMENTS BROADLY INFORMED, WE DO NOT WISH TO
CONVEY ALL THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL. YOU
SHOULD THEREFORE DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS TO BRIEF HOST
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. (FOR PICKERING: IT MAY NOT BE
POSSIBLE TO COMMENT ON EACH OF HUSSEIN'S CONCERNS AS
THEY ARE CONVEYED TO YOU AND SHARAF, BUT WE WILL MAKE
CONTINUING EFFORT IN THIS AND SUBSEQUENT MESSAGES TO KEEP

GOJ INFORMED OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS.)

-- SINCE PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S RETURN WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING OUR APPROACH TO JERUSALEM TALKS, OUR OBJECTIVE BEING TO HELP GET THEM LAUNCHED IN MOST PRODUCTIVE POSSIBLE FASHION.

-- BOTH SIDES HAVE CONSULTED US ABOUT AN AGENDA. OUR ANALYSIS IS THAT THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES ON HOW TO APPROACH BASIC ISSUES. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THESE DIFFERENCES EXIST, BUT WE SEE NO PROFIT IN PROLONGED WRANGLE IN JERUSALEM ABOUT AGENDA WHICH COULD DELAY OR EVEN JEOPARDIZE ATMOSPHERE FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. WE THEREFORE ARE MAKING THIS WEEK CERTAIN SUGGESTIONS TO TWO SIDES AS REGARDS AGENDA IN HOPE THAT AGREEMENT ON AGENDA CAN BE REACHED BEFORE JERUSALEM CONVENES.

-- IN OUR VIEW AGENDA SHOULD BE SIMPLE AND STRAIGHTFORWARD AND WE HAVE URGED EACH SIDE NOT TRY TO INCLUDE PHRASEOLOGY THAT OTHER WOULD SEE AS PREJUDICING ITS POSITION. WE HAVE SUGGESTED AN AGENDA CONSISTING OF THREE ITEMS: A DECLARATION OF THE PRINCIPLES TO GOVERN AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT; GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATION OF THE WEST BANK/GAZA/PALESTINIAN PROBLEM; THE ELEMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN PEACE TREATIES THAT
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ISRAEL WOULD SIGN WITH ITS NEIGHBORS.

-- REACHING AGREEMENT ON A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES STRIKES US AS BEING OF FIRST PRIORITY AS A DESIRABLE OBJECTIVE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO WORK TOWARD. AT THE SAME TIME, WE RECOGNIZE THAT MEANINGFUL DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES CAN PROBABLY ONLY COME ABOUT AS A RESULT OF A DISCUSSION IN SPECIFIC TERMS AND SOME NARROWING OF DIFFERENCES ON AN APPROACH TO THE PALESTINIAN/WEST BANK/GAZA PROBLEM THAT WOULD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, MAKE PROVISION FOR PALESTINIANS TO PARTICIPATE IN DETERMINATION OF THEIR FUTURE STATUS. WE THEREFORE SEE IT AS ESSENTIAL THAT WORK ON ITEMS ONE AND TWO OF THE AGENDA PROCEED CONCURRENTLY.

-- THE SECRETARY HAS SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE MOST FRUITFUL IF, DURING TWO AND POSSIBLY THREE DAYS HE WILL BE IN JERUSALEM, TALKS IN THIS INITIAL PERIOD COULD FOCUS ON FIRST TWO SUBJECTS. WE WILL BE BRINGING SOME CONCRETE FORMULATIONS IN BOTH AREAS, AND WE HAVE INDICATED TO BOTH ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS THAT WE HOPE THEY ALSO WILL COME

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-- TO BE CERTAIN THERE ARE NO MISUNDERSTANDINGS, WE WANT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT OBJECTIVE OF AGENDA WE ENVISAGE FOR JERUSALEM TALKS IS TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT IN THOSE TALKS ON PRINCIPLES AND FRAMEWORK FOR COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS ON NATURE OF PEACE; WITHDRAWAL AND SECURITY; AND A PALESTINIAN/WEST BANK/GAZA SOLUTION. DETAILED
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NEGOTIATION OF FINAL SETTLEMENT WOULD OF COURSE BE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED IN LATER NEGOTIATIONS AND ULTIMATELY IN RECONVENED GENEVA CONFERENCE.
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APPROVED BY: S/S- TMARTIN

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TEL AVIV FROM SECSTATE DTD 11 JAN 1978 QTE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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